Mr. I. Raman Menon.—It is only a question of time and funds.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—I wish to contribute a few words.

President.—I gave a chance for all to speak and as there was none I asked the Government side to give its opinion.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—I thought of speaking after hearing the Government side. But if I am not in time I do not want to speak. The question was rushed through. Although I wished to have said something I am not very keen.

President.—I shall first of all put the cut motion to vote.

(*The motion was put and negatived.*)

President.—Now I shall put the substantial motion to the vote of the House.

(*The substantial motion for an additional allotment of Rs.,1600 under II—A—Cocoanut Station was put and agreed to.*)

5. IX.—Forests.—Rs. 10,520.

President.—The next item is the motion for an additional allotment of Rs. 10,520 under IX—Forests.

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 10,520 under 'IX—Forests'.

We did not know that this amount was to be spent this year and secondly it was not possible to budget it in the present year's account. Part of the amount was already due last year, *viz.*, about Rs. 6,000 and odd, and bills were sent to the contractor to be signed and returned. But he did not return them and so the amount lapsed. The contract extended to this year and further collection was also made this year and the total amount now due including the lapsed one is Rs. 10,520. This could not be met from this year's allotment because they have been earmarked.

President.—This year's allotment has been earmarked for specific items and you will not be justified in transferring any amount to meet this expenditure. But will it appear from the budget that it was earmarked ?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—In the detailed budget submitted by me they are mentioned.

President.—Was it under the sanction of the Government?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—Yes, Sir.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—May I know from the Hon'ble Member whether he had any special difficulty for providing in the 1104 budget when these amounts lapsed in 1103 ?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—Towards the end of 1103. The budget could not be framed in such a manner as it was prepared in Medam.

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Mr. A. B. Salem.—Then may I know why this was not brought up in Kanni or Vrischigam?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—There was so much correspondence and there was no time and so it was only possible to bring it in this session.

Motion No. 1.

Mr. A. B. Salem—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 10,520 under IX—Forests by Re 1.*

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I have tabled this token motion to call attention to the very serious defect in not paying bills promptly. Sir, Government institutions ought to be always very prompt.

They must be above suspicion, like Ceasar's wife. They are not doing their own business; they are doing public business. Here is a bill presented for payment last year in Medam or so.

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—He kept back. For four months he did not sign the bill.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—This is something very surprising. I should like to know from the Hon'ble Member why he did not sign the bill? This is an extraordinary statement, because ordinarily it is human nature to receive amount at the earliest moment; for I will be the first man to sign and get my money.

President.—Let the Council know what all transpired.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—If the Hon'ble Member cannot tell what all things have transpired, I shall explain what it is due to. The Conservator of Forests prepared a bill deducting certain amounts due from the contractor to which the contractor took objection. Therefore, he did not sign the bill.

If the amount of the bill is to be deducted for disputed items what is the use of signing the bill? Let that dispute be over. It tells very badly upon the Government and not upon the contractor. That is no reason why other bills prepared in the year should not have been promptly paid. Therefore, it affects the prestige and dignity of the Government, in not making prompt payments. If there is no grant, any supplementary grant may be asked for by the Conservator of Forests in the Council. We have examples of this sort. Without even an allotment in the budget, money was paid by transfer of allotment. You yourself could have done it, Sir. In the Medical Department Rs. 1,000 was passed under emergency clause. From where did the money come? Without answering I shut my mouth. But there is the officer who has done that. If money can be paid like that, I do not see why many a work—hard work, could not be paid for promptly. It is better to have done so than to have said that this money "I cannot take from this

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year's allotment." When you have Rs. 78,613 for the removal of timber in your hands why not pay from that? I would like to know how much of the money has been spent so far? All that we budgetted for the removal of timber, *viz.*, Rs. 70,000, lapsed because work was not done. Then why do you provide such a large sum when other Departments are starving? And if, by the end of Medam, he has no money for earmarked works that are going on, it was then time for the Hon'ble Member to come before the House for supplementary grants. Now he comes after making people wait for their money which is already in the Treasury. If there has been no provision for earmarked works completed and you want to pay then, you ask for an additional grant. That would be the honest and correct way and I hope that the Hon'ble Members on the opposite side will do that in future.

President.—So with these remarks you don't press the motion.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—No, Sir.

(*The motion was withdrawn with leave*).

President.—We shall not be vindictive, Mr. Salem. Next motion stands in the name of Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—That is with reference to the next demand.

(*Motion for the demand was put and agreed to.*)

6. IX—Forests—Rs. 4,500.

President.—The next is for Rs. 4,500.

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—I rise to move for the grant of an additional amount of Rs. 4,500 to meet the expenditure of the works connected with the reconnoitring survey started in the forests by the Tram line in Kanni last, to meet the pay of the staff, the hill allowance, the travelling allowance and some stores and materials. The total amount required is Rs. 6,735 out of which we had Rs. 2,244 from the budget—'Establishment.' Deducting that, the total is Rs. 4,491 or Rs. 4,500. I request the House to grant that.

President.—Any information wanted on this demand? Mr. Ramachandra Ayyar may move his motion.

Motion No. 1.

T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,500 under Forests by Re. 1.*

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—I do not move.

(*Hence it was considered withdrawn.*)

Motion No. 2.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,500 under Forests by Re. 1.*

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Mr. A. B. Salem.—I don't move it.

(*Hence the motion was considered withdrawn.*)

Question put: "*That an additional grant of Rs. 4,500 under Forests be allowed*".

(*Question put and agreed to.*)

7. XI—Registration—Rs. 60.

President.—The next is the demand for Rs. 60 by the Secretary to the Diwan.

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—Sir, I beg to move for an additional grant of Rs. 60 under 'XI—Registration—Office Expenses.'

According to rules 6 and 13 issued under section 248 of the Companies Act, the Registrar and the Assistant Registrar of Joint Stock Companies have to affix the seal to all documents registered or filed in their office. That was not being done and instead of that, the seal of the District Registrar was being used. That is an objectionable practice and has to be put a stop to. But there was no provision made in the budget for this item of expenditure because the mistake was not then found out. It is only for the purchase of these 8 seals, 7 for the Assistants and one for the Joint Stock Registrar. Each costs Rs. 10, the total amount required being Rs. 80. The Department expects a saving of Rs. 20 under "Office Expenses." So they want only Rs. 60. I hope the House will grant the demand.

President.—Even for this small, minor item, so much care is taken.

Mr. Kannan Nayar may move.

Motion No. 1.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 60 for Registration by Re. 1.*

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—I don't move the motion.

(*Hence it was deemed withdrawn.*)

The demand was put and agreed to.

8. XXXI—Uplift of the Depressed Classes—Rs. 18,470.

President.—The next demand is for an additional allotment of Rs. 18,470 'under Uplift of the Depressed Classes.'

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Sir, I beg to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 18,470 under 'Uplift of the Depressed Classes.' This is necessitated by the development of our work on behalf of the Depressed Classes. The development was more than we had anticipated and we think for lack of funds it would not be right to put a stop to the work we have undertaken. Now I shall just explain the important items that account for this increase. The bulk of it comes under education. As you see from the budget, the work for the Uplift of the Depressed Classes comes under 2 heads—Education and General

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